

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00622 221044Z

12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /072 W

----- 012737

R 220742Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3586

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USLO PEKING

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAINHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0622

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI AO

SUBJECT: FNLA ESTABLISHES A MAJOR MILITARY BASE IN NORTHERN  
ANGOLA

CINCLANT AND CINCEUR FOR POLAD

1. WHILE ON A VISIT TO ZAIRE DISTRICT IN THE NORTHWEST  
CORNER OF ANGOLA, A CONGEN OFFICER WAS TOLD BY THE ACTING  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR, A PORTUGUESE, THAT FNLA HAS ESTABLISHED  
AND IS RAPIDLY BUILDING UP A LARGE MILITARY BASE AT QUIENDE  
(14 DEGREES 04'E - 6 DEGREES 29' S), 20 MILES SOUTHWEST OF SAO  
SALVADOR. FNLA HAS UPWARDS OF 2,000 TROOPS IN THE BASE AND THE  
ACTING GOVERNOR SAID HE WAS TOLD BY FNLA THAT THIS IS SOON  
TO BECOME THE MAJOR FNLA MILITARY TRAINING AND SUPPORT BASE,  
TO REPLACE KINKUZU IN THE REP OF ZAIRE. HE DID NOT  
KNOW IF THIS MEANT THE CHINESE ADVISORS WOULD MOVE INTO ANGOLA.  
HE SAID FNLA WAS UNUSUALLY SENSITIVE ABOUT THIS BASE AND HAVE  
TOLD PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE PILOTS THAT THE NEXT TIME THEY  
OVERFLY IT THEY WILL BE SHOT AT.

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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00622 221044Z

2. COMMENT: THE TRANSFER OF FNLA'S MAJOR BASE TO ANGOLA WOULD

MAKE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SENSE FOR ROBERTO AT  
THIS JUNCTURE. NEARBY SAO SALVADOR IS THE HISTORIC  
CAPITAL OF THE KINGDOM OF THE BALONGOS AND IS THE HEARTLAND  
OF FNLA'S ETHNIC SUPPORT. MOVING INTO ANGOLA WOULD FREE ROBERTO  
FROM MOBUTU'S DOMINANCE AND ALLOW HIM TO ACT  
INDEPENDENTLY ON THE ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT MATTER OF CABINDA.  
THE BASE IS ONLY 300 MILES FROM LUANDA, MOST OF WHICH IS  
HARD SURFACE ROAD, THUS IMPROVING THE REACTION TIME OF  
FNLA'S FORCES. FNLA HAS SECURED THE PORT AT AMBRIZETE AND HAS  
REMOVED ALL MPLA FORCES FROM THAT CITY AS WELL AS TOMBOCO,  
INSURING AN UNMOLESTED SUPPLY ROUTE FROM AMBRIZETE TO QUIENDE.  
PORTER

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## Message Attributes

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